



Hampton Mayor's Committee For People with Disabilities

NEWSLETTER



Vol. 24 No.1

Fall 2014

Jeanne E. Smith, Contributing Editor



HAMPTON MAYOR'S COMMITTEE ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON

Thursday, October 23, 2014—Noon to 2:00PM
Crowne Plaza — located at the Hampton Marina

(see details pages 5 to 8)

TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR COMMUNICATING WITH PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Excerpted from "Disability Etiquette" by Ellen L. Shackelford & Marguerite Edmonds
*How To Interact With People With Disabilities - Ways On Marketing To Consumers With Disabilities
Including Ones With Differences In All Social Situations.*

Acquiring knowledge of the 10 commandments is a tool to allow you to be a bit more comfortable when interacting with people with disabilities of all levels. **THEY ARE PEOPLE FIRST** whether than someone who has a physical or mental disability- **THEIR DISABILITY IS IRRELEVANT!!!!**

- Speak directly rather than through a companion or sign language interpreter
- Offer to shake hands or acknowledge ones you meet
- Always identify yourself
- Offer assistance but wait for instructions
- Treat adults as adults, never patronize
- Don't lean against or bang on someone's mobility equipment
- Listen attentively when talking to people who have difficulty with speech
- Place yourself at eye level
- Tap someone on the shoulder who may be deaf or hard of hearing
- Relax—just be yourself



Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference

— Winston Churchill

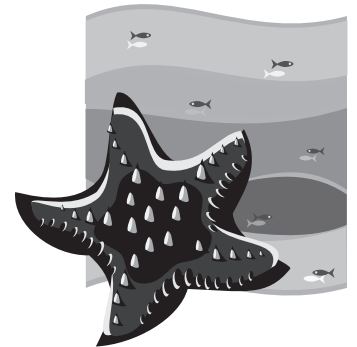
A SHORT STORY

There was once a KING who had 1 eye and 1 leg. He asked all the artists to paint a beautiful portrait of him. But none of them could, how could they paint him beautifully? Eventually one of them agreed and drew a classic picture of the King. It WAS a fantastic portrait and surprised everyone. He painted the King aiming for a hunt with one eye closed and one leg bent.

*Moral: Why can't we all paint pictures like this of others.
Hiding their weakness and highlighting their strength.*

ONE PERSON CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

One morning a man walked along a beach covered with thousands of starfish that had washed up on the beach during a storm. Now, they were dying in the sun. He saw a young girl picking up the starfish one by one and tossing them back into the sea. As he approached her he couldn't help but ask, "Why bother? There are too many of them, you won't make much of a difference" She picked up another starfish and tossed it into the water. Then she turned to the man and said, "I made a difference to that one".



AUTISM VOTES



Without action by Congress, the landmark Combating Autism Act will expire September 30th, jeopardizing the Federal government's response to Autism as prevalence continues to rise.

Fortunately, a new bipartisan bill has been introduced to Congress to continue the Law and guide how our Nation responds to Autism for another 5 years. Nearly 60 House members have already signed on. Has your Member of Congress signed on to co-sponsor HR. 4631, the Combating Autism Reauthorization Act of 2014? If not, urge them to do so! If they have, send them a thank you note!

INDEED THE BODY IS MADE UP OF MORE THAN ONE MEMBER

Disability Awareness Ministry

People with disabilities are and want to be recognized as an integral part of the Church, dedicating their lives and their sacrifices as their non-disabled counterparts to help strengthen the Body of Christ. Members who can and do demonstrate the will and goodness of God by accepting their own disabilities and to be able to live lives of service to God. Living lives that demonstrate that each of us has a cross to bear but that we all have something to give to God and each other.

The Disability Awareness Ministry (DA) of First Baptist Church of Hampton was organized on September 23, 2000, Sister Evelyn Easter, member of the Christian Education Ministry,, led the first meeting to hear the concerns expressed by individuals with disabilities, and to have officers elected.

The Mission of the DA Ministry is to create a culture of inclusion, one in which people with disabilities can fully participate in all aspects of church life.

To provide support and resources to members who have disabilities within the Church so that they may feel comfortable, welcome, and encouraged in their Worship of God.

To help the Church Family to have a greater sense of awareness and sensitivity to the needs of people with disabilities.

To increase opportunities for members with disabilities to use their intellectual and artistic abilities to participate more fully in all Church programs, events, and ministries.

To ensure both physical, programmatic and communications access.

To introduce new ideas that will include and embrace both individuals with disabilities as well as those without disabilities within the Church Family.

To Monitor Church programs to ensure physical, programmatic and communications access Throughout the Ministry's fourteen years of existence, it has made the following accomplishments to assist members with disabilities within the Church;

1. Sign Language Classes
2. Annual Disability Awareness Sunday.
3. Replaced Accessible Parking Signs.
4. Large Print Bibles
5. Automatic Doors
6. Eight Additional Accessible Parking Spaces
7. Resting Stations in the hallways
8. Listening Devices

Sister Catherine Tyler Northan, and Brother Reagan Hudson, Jr., Co-Chair the Ministry

The Disability Awareness Ministry meets;
2nd Thursday of the month, 6:00pm-7:30pm,
2nd floor, Room 203B

First Baptist Church of Hampton
229 N. King Street
Hampton, VA 23669
757-723-0988
www.thefbch.org

New members are always welcome.

The difference between the right word and the almost right word is the difference between lightning and lightning bug.

ACCESSIBLE MOVIE THEATERS

Regal Theater 100 Regal Way Newport News, VA • Phone 989-5298

They have 10 descriptive audio headphones for the visually impaired. All of their theaters are equipped to use these devices, however all movies are not made to be accessible. Therefore, calls ahead should be made. Glasses are provided with captioned screens for the hearing impaired.

Paragon City Center 11810 Fountain Way Newport News, VA • Phone 525-9898

Have 25 descriptive audio headphones and glasses with captions for the hearing impaired. All theaters are equipped with these accommodations. Call ahead because all movies are not accessible.

AMC 24 1 Town Center Way Hampton, VA • Phone 826-4200

They have recently equipped their theaters with digital features and in the near future will be accessible in all 24 theaters with audio descriptive headphones for the visually impaired and captioned glasses for the hearing impaired. Please check their website for updates.



THAT ALL MAY WORSHIP— 2015— SAVE THE DATE — On Friday, March 20, 2015 Faith Inclusion network will hold their 4th biannual faith and disabilities conference at Lynnhaven United Methodist Church, Virginia Beach. Leaders in the faith and disabled community including Rev. Bill Gaventa, Erik Carter, Milton Tyree, Shelly Christensen and David Morstad, among others, will be presenting. Don't miss this exciting and inspiring day!!!

Registration will be available on line starting in December 2014. If you are not already on our email list and would like to keep updated, contact Karen Jackson, Executive Director at faithinclusionnetwork@gmail.com or call 757-826-0762

Reminder...

The Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities meets the 2nd Thursday of every month (except July and December) from 3:00PM to 5:00PM, Hampton City Hall, 22 Lincoln St. 5th floor and we welcome guests. FYI—A sign language interpreter is available at our meetings if you are hearing challenged.

The Committee will have a booth at Bay Days (September 5th, 6th, 7th) Stop by and meet us.

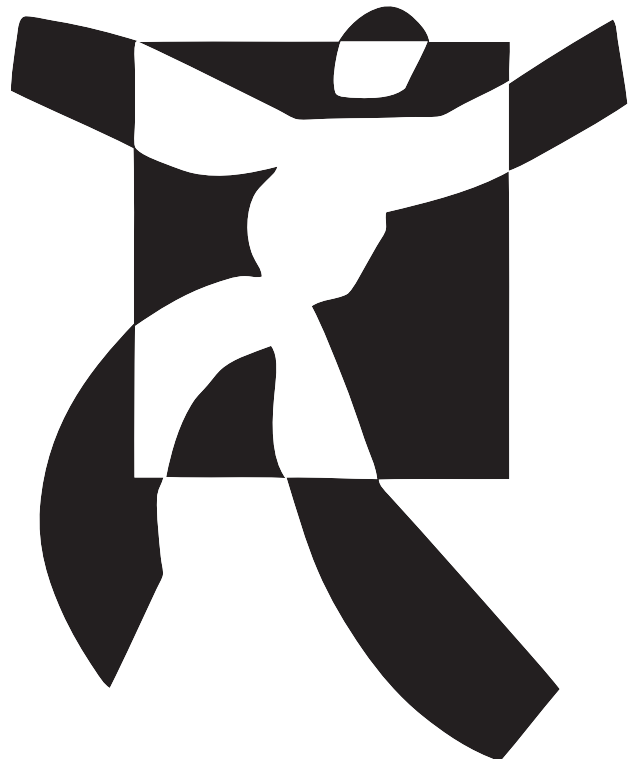


**Serving
The
Hampton
Community
And Its
Disabled Citizens
for
35 years**

**Hampton Mayor's
Committee
For People
With Disabilities**

**October 23rd, 2014
Annual Awards
Luncheon**

**Crown Plaza
700 Settlers Landing Rd.**



HAMPTON MAYOR'S COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES ANNUAL AWARDS

Each year, the Hampton Mayor's Committee For People With Disabilities recognizes those who have actively contributed to the mission of the Committee either through their work, or volunteer efforts. Nominees either live, work or volunteer at a location in Hampton. Committee members / or nominees from the last three(3) years are ineligible.

Employee Of The Year Award

The Committee wishes to recognize an employee with a disability who within the past year has exhibited outstanding achievement and exceptional character at their place of work.

CRITERIA:

- Exceptional traits for being an outstanding employee
- Excelled at being a part of the workplace
- Positively influenced the employer's opinion about employing people with disabilities

Stephen T. Capo Employer Of The Year Award

Recognition of a local business that enhances the employment of people with disabilities.

CRITERIA:

- The business actively hires and promotes the employment of individuals with disabilities in the workplace.
- Demonstrates willingness to go above minimum requirements to enhance the workplace to promote the employment of individuals with disabilities in their workplace.
- Actively works with community agencies to provide more job opportunities for people with disabilities.

Charles A Wornom Helping Hands Award

Recognition of an individual or group who within the past year have been advocates for disability rights, and who have made contributions that have made major impact on the lives of Hamptonians with disabilities.

CRITERIA:

- Provide work and efforts to increase the public awareness for people with disabilities
- Volunteers time and effort in disability advocacy
- Engages themselves as well as people with disabilities to advocate for services within the local and state community
- Utilizes their time and effort to enhance individuals with disabilities lives through extracurricular activities

Phil E. Everhart Youth Awards

Recognition of youth who unselfishly volunteered to help improve Hamptonians with disabilities' daily lives.

CRITERIA:

- Volunteer their time to help improve the lives of individuals with disabilities. Examples: tutoring, assisting individuals by being a companion, or guide, providing or assisting in special events as physical fitness training or leading an art group, learning and using sign language to enhance a relationship with a person with disabilities, or assist with daily living activities as grocery shopping, or cleaning living areas
- Under the age of 19 and/or has not graduated from high school

**HAMPTON MAYOR'S COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLE WITH
DISABILITIES
ANNUAL AWARDS NOMINATION FORM**

AWARD CATEGORY (Check one category per form)

- _____ **Employee of the Year**
- _____ **Stephen T. Capo Employer of the Year Award**
- _____ **Charles A Wornom Helping Hands Award**
- _____ **Phil E. Everhart Youth Award**

Nominee Name: _____

Contact

Address: _____

_____ **Telephone Number:** _____

Has the nominee been recognized by the Hampton Mayor's Committee for People With Disabilities in the last three years? _____ **No** _____ **Yes** If yes, please note which year

Recommendation Summary: Written recommendations should be attached to each individual nomination form. Please refer to the criteria listed to develop the nominee's recommendations. Please write recommendation on the reverse side of this page.

Nominated By: _____

Telephone Number: _____ **Date:** _____

Nominations postmarked after October 10, 2014 will not be accepted.

Mailing Address:

***Jeanne E. Smith
228 Winchester Drive
Hampton, Virginia 23666-2120***

**HAMPTON MAYOR'S COMMITTEE
FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON
October 23, 2014
REGISTRATION FORM**

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Organization (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip code: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Luncheon Menu: Choice of Entrée:

(A) Chicken Breast with cream sauce, red bliss potatoes and broccoli

(B) Baked Salmon with cream sauce on rice confetti and green beans, or

(C) Vegetable Pasta

Tossed Salad, Rolls, coffee or tea, and selected deserts

Registration Fee: Seventeen (\$17.00) dollars per person

Attendee Information	Additional Attendee	Additional Attendee	Additional Attendee
	Name: _____	Name: _____	Name: _____
Entree Selection: ____ (A) Chicken ____ (B) Salmon ____ (C) Vegetarian	Entree Selection: ____ (A) Chicken ____ (B) Salmon ____ (C) Vegetarian	Entree Selection: ____ (A) Chicken ____ (B) Salmon ____ (C) Vegetarian	Entree Selection: ____ (A) Chicken ____ (B) Salmon ____ (C) Vegetarian
SPECIAL ASSISTANCE: Braille and large print programs will be available at the luncheon. Assistance will also be available for general meal set up.			
Accommodations Requested: ____ Attendant for meal ____ ParaTransit Tickets ____ Financial Assistance for meal	Accommodations Requested: ____ Attendant for meal ____ ParaTransit Tickets ____ Financial Assistance for meal	Accommodations Requested: ____ Attendant for meal ____ ParaTransit Tickets ____ Financial Assistance for meal	Accommodations Requested: ____ Attendant for meal ____ ParaTransit Tickets ____ Financial Assistance for meal

Total Number of Attendees: _____ x \$17.00 = \$ _____

Registration Deadline: Must be postmarked no later than October 17, 2014. Checks may be made payable to: HMCFPWD.

Mail Registration to: **Story Smith**
228 Winchester Drive
Hampton, Virginia 23666-2120

Office Action: Date Mailed: _____ Date Received: _____

Check # _____ Amount: _____ Date Posted: _____ Date to Treasurer: _____

Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities
City Hall
22 Lincoln St.
Hampton, VA 23669
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This is your newsletter!

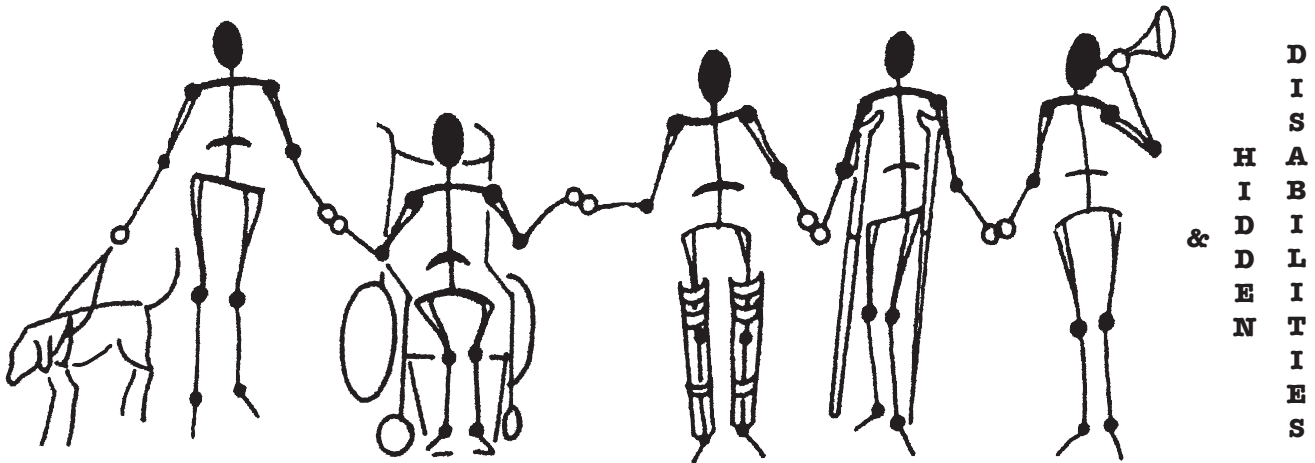
This newsletter is published quarterly, four times a year: Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall. This newsletter was established to serve the disabled population and to enhance public awareness by publishing interesting and informative articles that will specifically address the needs and interests of the disabled. We welcome your comments and suggestions concerning future articles. We reserve the right to edit all articles. We are not afraid of offering controversial views for the benefit of our readers. Consequently, views and interests presented will not necessarily be the opinions of the editors or of the members of the Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities.

*Our thanks to the Hampton City Council
for making these newsletters possible.*

**If you receive more than
one newsletter, please pass
the extra copy to a friend!**

*This Newsletter is designed and printed
at **Sir Speedy** in Hampton, VA.
Layout Design by Lorraine*

*If you want to change your address, cancel receiving this newsletter or would like to be added
to our mailing list, please contact Jeanne at 757-826-0762.*



If we all work together, we can win the battle.